(e) "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" (RGGVY) aims at electrifying all the villages in the country by 2009.

Ultra Mega Power Projects

656. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VUAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to skip the expression of interest stage for the proposed 4000 Ultra mega power projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the IB Valley in Orissa and Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh will be given benefit of this approach?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Power through Power Finance Corporation has taken an initiative for facilitating the development of a few 4,000 MW Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) under tariff based competitive bidding route envisaged Under Section 63 fo the Electricity Act, 2003 through project specific shell companies. Two part bidding process has been adopted for the selection of the final bidder. First part pertains to inviting Request for Qualification for short listing of the bidders and second part relates to Request for Proposal for tariff based bidding. Through invitation of expression of Interest (Eol) in earlier few projects, wider awareness among the domestic and international investors has already been created. In respect of later projects including pithead site at Orissa and coastal site at Krishnapatnam, Andhra Pradesh two part bidding process is envisaged without going through Eol stage. Notice for RFQ has already been issued on 12th July, 2006 in respect of Krishnapatnam.

Power Plants in coastal areas

657. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 9 power plants are proposed to be set up in the coastal areas of the country;